

# **Historic, Archive Document**

Do not assume content reflects current scientific knowledge, policies, or practices.



# THE Marketing and Transportation SITUATION

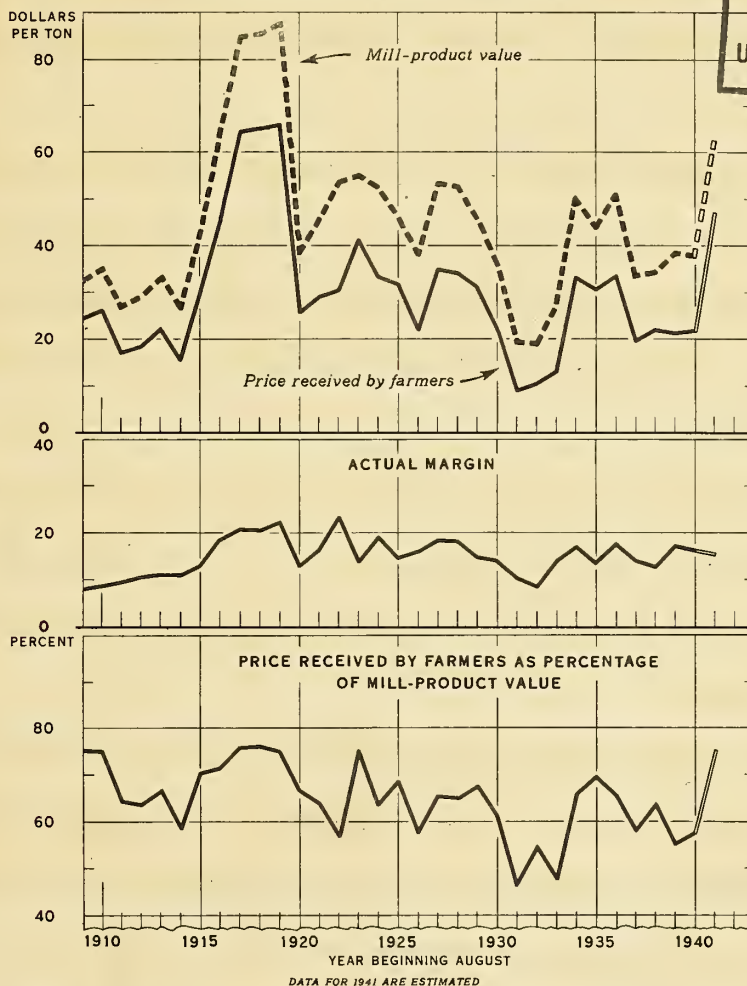
BUREAU OF AGRICULTURAL ECONOMICS  
UNITED STATES DEPARTMENT OF AGRICULTURE

MTS-3

BAE

July 1942

COTTONSEED: AVERAGE VALUE OF PRODUCTS PER TON OF SEED  
CRUSHED, PRICE RECEIVED BY FARMERS, AND MARGINS,  
UNITED STATES, ANNUALLY, 1909-41



U. S. DEPARTMENT OF AGRICULTURE

NEG. 42170 BUREAU OF AGRICULTURAL ECONOMICS

DURING THE 1941-42 SEASON, CHARGES FOR CRUSHING COTTONSEED, (INCLUDING CHARGES FOR MOVING THE SEED FROM FARMERS TO THE MILLS) WERE NEAR AVERAGE 1935-39 LEVELS.

PRICES PAID FARMERS PER TON OF COTTONSEED AND MILL SALES VALUE OF PRODUCTS REACHED THE HIGHEST LEVELS SINCE 1919. FARMERS RECEIVED 75¢ OF THE MILL SALES DOLLAR, NEAR THE RECORD HIGH SINCE 1909.

## SUMMARY

Charges for getting 58 important food products from the farm to the consumer rose 3 percent from the middle of May to mid-June. This increase in marketing charges followed a similar rise from mid-April to mid-May. While charges for marketing farm products went up 3 percent, prices paid to farmers for the 58 food items went up less than 1/2 of 1 percent. The increase of 5-1/2 percent in marketing charges over the 2-month period from April to June compared with an increase of less than 1 percent in payments received by farmers.

The net increase in total cost to consumers of the 58 important foods was 1-1/2 percent from May to June. With the marketing charges taking more of the consumers' dollar, the share going to the farmer dropped from 52 cents in May to 51 cents in June. Margins have widened so rapidly since April that very little of the increased retail food cost has been reflected in receipts of farmers. The annual food costs of the average consumer rose by about \$12 from April to June. Of this increase, \$10 went to pay increased charges for getting foods from the farm to the consumer, and only \$2 to the farmer who supplied the products.

The Bureau of Labor Statistics estimated that the retail prices of foods not controlled under the General Maximum Price Regulation advanced 4.8 percent from mid-May to mid-June, while most controlled retail food prices declined. In terminal wholesale markets, prices of unprocessed farm products rose more than 1 percent from mid-June to mid-July, prices of textile products dropped slightly, food prices dropped nearly 1 percent, and prices of hides and leather products did not change.

The price paid cotton farmers for lint cotton dropped 9/10 cents from May to June, interrupting an unbroken upward movement beginning in November 1941.



The lower June price at the farm was associated with record high mill margins for spinning and weaving. During late June and early July the mill margin narrowed and the mid-July wholesale market price of lint cotton rose 1.2 cents above the June low.

The national transportation situation demands increasing attention. The high proportion of farm trucks which are over 10 years old but are still serviceable points out the need for adequate replacement parts and tires.

July 29, 1942

#### FARM-RETAIL PRICE SPREADS

##### Marketing Margins Continue to Widen

In June, the cost to consumers for annual family purchases of 58 food items produced on American farms was \$398, while equivalent payments to farmers amounted to \$203. The marketing margin or spread between payments to farmers and cost at retail was \$195 in June - the highest margin since 1938. The marketing margin rose more than 2-1/2 percent from May to June, roughly in line with the usual seasonal increase. This followed a similar increase during the previous month. Margins have widened so rapidly since April that very little of the increased retail food cost in May and June has been reflected in prices paid to farmers. The consumer's food cost rose by \$12, from \$386 in April to \$398 in June. Of this increase, \$10 was absorbed by higher marketing charges leaving only \$2 representing higher prices paid to farmers for food products.

The June marketing margin was about 2 percent higher than the pre-war 1935-39 margin of \$191, although still 14 percent below the 1929 margin of \$220. The June cost of foods to consumers was 20 percent higher than the pre-war average of \$332 but was well below the 1929 cost of \$415. Payments to farmers of \$203 in June were 44 percent above the 1935-39 average of \$141 and 4 percent higher than payments of \$195 in 1929.

The farmer's share of the consumers' food dollar dropped from 52 cents in May to 51 cents in June, compared with 47 cents one year earlier, 42 cents for 1935-39 and 47 cents in 1929. The farmer's share has held at 50 cents or above since September 1941.

##### Higher Food Costs Chiefly Due to Items Not Under Price Control

The Bureau of Labor Statistics reported that retail prices of foods not subject to the General Maximum Price Regulation advanced by an average of 4.8 percent from May to June and retail cost of the group of foods under price control dropped about 1 percent. Among the foods not included in the maximum price regulation, retail cost of lamb products advanced 11 percent, potatoes 11 percent, hens 9 percent, sweet potatoes 9 percent, and eggs 4 percent. Among the items subject to control, retail price declines amounted to 1 percent for pork products, 3 percent for peanut butter, and 1 percent for navy beans and soda crackers.

At the farm level, higher prices for food products were more general among the list of items not subject to maximum price control. Prices paid to farmers advanced 2 percent for lambs and 1 percent for hogs and beef cattle. The farm price of eggs showed a counter-seasonal advance of 3 percent. Other items showing advances were sweet potatoes and hens. Prices of dairy products declined seasonally and prices of most grains were lower in June than in May.

#### Spreads Between Farm And Retail Prices Wider For Most Foods

Marketing charges as measured by the spread between retail prices and equivalent payments to farmers rose from May to June on most food products. Advances in farm prices of lambs did not keep pace with higher retail prices and marketing charges increased by  $2\frac{1}{2}$  percent a pound. Marketing charges for hens rose 20 percent from 15.7 cents to 18.8 cents per pound and for eggs the advance was 4 percent, from 14.4 to 15.0 cents per dozen. Marketing charges over most items were higher than in June 1941 by an average of 7 percent.

The Chicago packers' slaughtering margin on hogs measured by the spread between cost of hogs per hundred pounds and the value of all edible products, fresh basis, obtained per hundred pounds of live hogs dropped almost to the vanishing point for the week ending July 11. According to estimates of the Agricultural Marketing Administration, the margin was 2 cents per hundred pounds for that week compared with 83 cents for the comparable week of 1941. Processors may not be squeezed to the extent that this indicates however, for most of them carry pork products through curing operations and sales departments and to make a fair judgment it would be necessary to appraise their over-all margins and costs covering all integrated operations in which they engage.

#### Food Cost Remains Same Percentage of Rising Family Income

Estimates of annual family income have risen steadily since last year, and the rise from May to June brought the estimate to \$2,222. The retail cost of 58 foods has risen in about the same proportion as family income, so that cost of these foods as a percentage of average family income has been fairly constant since last year at 18 percent. This percentage is lower than in most years prior to 1941.

#### COTTONSEED PROCESSING MARGINS HOLD NEAR PRE-WAR LEVELS

Charges of seed dealers, transportation agencies, and mills crushing cottonseed for the season 1941-42, averaged near the 1935-36 pre-war level, according to preliminary estimates.



At present the cottonseed industry is of unprecedented concern to the nation because of the increased demand for vegetable oil products, cotton linters, and cake and meal for livestock feed. With this demand and with relatively stable charges of seed dealers and mills, the farmers' share of the mill product value has risen to a level reached in only a few seasons of the period since 1909, the first year for which farm prices of cottonseed are available.

The figure on the cover page shows mill value of products obtained per ton of cottonseed, farm price of cottonseed, and margin covering charges for transportation and handling of seed from the gin to the mill and for processing of the seed at the mill, by seasons 1909 to 1941. Table I shows these data for outstanding seasons with estimates for months since June 1941. The percentages of product value attributed to each of the four products - oil, cake and meal, linters, and hulls - are also shown.

A preliminary estimate of the mill product value for the season just ending (1941-42) is \$62.50, compared to a high of \$87.76 in 1919, a low of \$19.25 in 1931 and a 1935-39 average of \$40.21. Comparable farm prices are \$47.00 (estimate for 1941-42), \$65.79, \$8.96, and \$25.29. Ceilings in effect since December 1941 on prices of cottonseed oil have contributed to the recent stability in monthly product value. The margins are relatively stable in comparison with fluctuations in prices at the farm or at the processing plant. 1/

The marketing margin between the price received by farmers per ton of cottonseed and the mill sales values of products is estimated at \$15.50 for the season 1941-42 compared with \$16.08 in 1940 and the 1935-39 pre-war average of \$14.92. In past years the cottonseed crushing industry has been burdened with excess capacity, and equipment frequently lay idle. Current plans for vastly increased production of other oil-bearing crops should permit fuller utilization of this capacity and cut down overhead costs.

---

1/ The data for other years and the explanation of the methods used are available in a recent publication of the Bureau of Agricultural Economics, "Cottonseed: Marketing Spreads between Price Received by Farmers and the Value of Products at Crushing Mills". July 1942.

Table I - Average value of cottonseed products, per ton of seed crushed, percentage of value attributed to each of the four products, farm value of cottonseed, and margin between farm price and product values for specified years and months

Year beginning August	Value of products per ton of seed 1/	Farm price per ton 2/	Actual margin	Farm price as percent of product value	Percentage of product value attributed to -	Crude oil	Cake and meal	Hulls	Linters
1903-14 average	31.12	21.59	9.53	69.4	52.5	35.1	7.8	4.6	
1919 .....	87.76	65.79	21.97	75.0	59.5	33.8	3.2	3.5	
1920 .....	38.46	25.65	12.81	66.7	54.1	37.3	6.4	2.2	
1929 .....	45.74	30.95	14.79	67.7	50.0	35.9	5.3	8.8	
1931 .....	19.25	8.96	10.29	46.5	56.1	32.3	5.1	6.5	
1935-39 average	40.21	25.29	14.92	62.9	55.4	29.2	4.6	10.8	
1940 .....	37.80	21.72	16.08	57.5	46.6	31.6	5.3	16.5	
1941 3/ .....	62.50	47.00	15.50	75.2	58.6	25.7	2.8	12.9	
1941 -									
June .....	52.96	23.64	29.33	44.6	62.4	22.4	2.9	12.3	
July .....	56.81	23.96	32.85	42.2	59.9	24.4	3.1	12.6	
Aug. ....	57.43	34.85	22.58	60.7	57.4	26.5	3.1	13.0	
Sept. ....	64.17	43.90	20.27	68.4	57.5	27.4	3.0	12.1	
Oct. ....	62.20	47.60	14.60	76.5	59.1	25.5	2.6	12.8	
Nov. ....	60.40	47.58	12.82	78.8	56.9	26.9	2.9	13.3	
Dec. ....	63.00	48.37	14.63	76.8	57.6	26.9	2.7	12.8	
1942 -									
Jan. ....	65.55	48.57	16.98	74.1	58.1	26.9	2.7	12.3	
Feb. ....	64.77	48.55	16.22	75.0	58.9	25.9	2.7	12.5	
Mar. ....	64.41	48.60	15.81	75.5	59.3	25.4	2.7	12.6	
Apr. ....	63.74	48.09	15.65	75.4	59.9	24.5	2.9	12.7	
May .....	63.36	47.49	15.87	75.0	60.6	23.9	2.6	12.9	
June .....	63.57	46.26	17.31	72.8	60.7	23.8	2.7	12.8	

1/ Mill product values on the basis of values reported for each season by the U. S. Bureau of the Census, interpolated and extrapolated by monthly wholesale market prices of the products.

2/ The monthly farm price is a weighted average of monthly prices received by farmers including several earlier months of farm sale to represent actual payment to farmers for seed crushed during each month.

3/Preliminary estimate.



## RECENT DEVELOPMENTS IN MOTOR TRUCKING

### Nearly One-third of Farm Trucks More than Ten Years Old

As the Nation gears its economy to the requirements of all-out war, readjustments in motor transportation practices and policies have become increasingly necessary. New Government agencies have been established to regulate the production of new equipment and replacement parts and the utilization of facilities. These developments are of great importance to farmers who drive their own trucks or employ for-hire carriers.

According to the Census of 1940, some 1,047,084 trucks were registered on farms, or about 25 percent of the total truck registrations for that year. But registration figures alone do not reflect depreciation and the potential demand for replacement parts. Table I shows that almost a third of farm trucks were ten or more years old in the total farm registration in 1940.

Table II .- Supply of farm trucks and proportion of vehicles ten or more years old in 1940 by States

State	Percentage of farm to total trucks	Percentage trucks ten or more years old
	Percent	Percent
N. Dak. ....:	65.1	54.6
S. Dak. ....:	48.8	53.2
Wis. ....:	37.1	47.8
Nebr. ....:	41.0	47.2
Kans. ....:	45.5	37.4
Minn. ....:	34.1	37.3
Wash. ....:	35.4	34.9
Calif. ....:	20.4	34.6
Mont. ....:	48.7	32.8
Oreg. ....:	27.5	32.7
U. S. average :	25.8	31.6

Source: Tabulations and calculations based on data in Motor Truck Facts, 1942, Automobile Manufacturers Association, pp. 34, 35.

As the result of War Production Board restrictions on the production of new trucks, the problem of replacement to farmers in the Midwestern States has already reached an acute stage, especially in South Dakota and North Dakota, Nebraska, and Wisconsin, where from 47 to 55 percent of farm trucks in 1940 were over ten years old.

Agricultural Demand for Truck Service at High Level

During 1941 the trucking of livestock accounted for well over half of the "drive-ins" at 68 public stockyards, and trucking of dairy and poultry products ranged from 29 percent for butter to 48 percent for eggs. (Table III-b) Over three-fourths of the live poultry received at New York City were trucked in, as was 85 percent of milk received at Philadelphia. For all products listed the percentage of truck to total receipts at market rose significantly between 1935 and 1941. .

Table III .- Ratio of truck to total receipts of livestock at 68 stockyards, 1935, 1940, and 1941

Year	Cattle	Calves	Hogs	Sheep and Lambs	Horses and Mules	Total
	Percent	Percent	Percent	Percent	Percent	Percent
1935	51.0	54.7	61.0	25.9	31.7	44.6
1940	65.6	64.2	68.2	31.8	51.9	56.7
1941	68.9	67.5	70.5	34.3	49.0	58.8

Table III-a .- Ratios of truck to total receipts of butter, milk, live poultry, and eggs at selected markets, 1935, 1940, and 1941

Year	Butter 1/	Eggs 1/	Live poultry 2/	Milk 3/
	Percent	Percent	Percent	Percent
1935	17.0	32.0	36.4	70.8
1940	28.1	45.2	68.7	83.8
1941	29.1	48.4	76.5	85.7

1/ Reports from the four primary markets of New York City, Chicago, Philadelphia, and Boston.

2/ Percentage truck receipts of carload equivalents at New York City only.

3/ Percentage truck receipts of Milk at Philadelphia only.

Source: Driven-in Receipts of Livestock 1941, U.S. Dept. of Agriculture, Agricultural Marketing Service, February 1942, p. 1, and mimeographed releases in Dairy and Poultry Division, U. S. Dept. of Agriculture, Agricultural Marketing Service, 1941.

Table 1.- Annual family purchases of 58 foods <sup>1/</sup>

Year and month		Cost at retail	Paid to farmers	Marketing margin	Farmer's share of retail value
		Dollars	Dollars	Dollars	Percent
1913-15 (average)		256	135	121	53
1920		514	272	242	53
1929		415	195	220	47
1935-39 (average)		332	141	191	42
1940		314	132	182	42
1941		342	164	178	48
1941	June	345	161	184	47
	July	348	170	178	49
	Aug.	348	172	176	49
	Sept.	357	181	176	51
	Oct.	361	180	181	50
	Nov.	365	182	183	50
	Dec.	366	189	177	52
1942	Jan.	378	194	184	51
	Feb.	381	195	186	51
	Mar.	384	196	186	51
	Apr.	386	201	185	52
	May	392	202	190	52
	June	398	203	195	51

<sup>1/</sup> Important food products produced by American farmers combined in quantities representing annual purchase by a typical workingman's family.

Retail price averages for 51 cities from U. S. Bureau of Labor Statistics

Table 2.- Nonfarm family income and cost of family food purchases for selected periods <sup>1/</sup>

Year and month	Family income	Retail cost of all foods	Retail cost of 58 foods	Food cost as percentage of income	
				All foods	58 foods
	Dollars	Dollars	Dollars	Percent	Percent
1920	1,847	688	514	37	28
1929	1,968	540	415	27	21
1933	1,116	343	264	31	24
1940	1,645	394	314	24	19
1941	1,838	430	342	23	18
1942	Apr. 2,172	487	386	22	18
	May 2/ 2,199	2/ 496	392	2/ 23	2/ 18
	June 2/ 2,222	2/ 502	398	2/ 23	2/ 18

<sup>1/</sup> For sources of material used in this table see "Farm-to-retail price spreads December 1941," p.5. (Note at foot of table)

<sup>2/</sup> Revised.

<sup>3/</sup> Preliminary



Table 3.- Price spreads between the farmer and the consumer - food products, June 1942

Retail commodity	Table No.	Retail		Farm equivalent		Farm value as	
		Unit	Price	Quantity	Value	Actual margin	percentage of retail price
			Cents		Cents	Cents	Percent
Pork products:	11	1 lb. prin.		1.90 lb. live	25.4	3.9	87
		pork products	29.3	hog			
Dairy products	12	100 lb. milk	394.9	100 lb. milk	2/188.5	206.4	48
		equivalent		equivalent			
Hens	13	1 lb.	39.3	1.11 lb.	20.5	18.8	52
Eggs	14	1 doz.	42.4	1 doz.	27.4	15.0	65
White flour	15	1 lb.	5.1	1.41 lb. wheat	2.2	2.9	43
White bread	16	1 lb.	8.6	.97 lb. wheat	1.5	7.1	17
Corn meal	17	1 lb.	4.7	1.5 lb. corn	2.5	2.5	47
Rolled oats	18	1 lb.	8.6	1.78 lb. oats	2.6	6.0	30
Corn flakes	19	8-oz. pkg.	7.2	1.275 lb. corn	1.9	5.3	26
Wheat cereal	20	28-oz. pkg.	24.1	2.065 lb. wheat	3.3	20.8	14
Rice	21	1 lb.	12.2	1.51 lb. rough rice	5.7	6.5	47
Navy beans	22	1 lb.	8.9	1 lb. dry beans	4.4	4.5	49
Oranges	24	1 doz.	36.2	1/17 box	12.9	23.3	36
Potatoes	25	1 lb.	3.9	1 lb.	1.9	2.0	49
Apples	35	1 lb.	9.4	1 lb.	3.5	5.9	37
Lamb products:	37	1 lb. prin.	34.6	2.16 lb. live	25.9	8.7	75
		lamb cuts		lamb			
Sweet potatoes:	38	1 lb.	5.9	1 lb.	2.0	3.9	34
Rye bread	39	1 lb.	9.2	.39 lb. rye & .64 lb. wheat	1.4	7.8	15
Whole wh. bread:	40	1 lb.	10.0	.92 lb. wheat	1.5	8.5	15
Macaroni	41	1 lb.	14.2	1.72 lb. durum wheat	2.6	11.6	18
Soda crackers:	42	1 lb.	16.4	1.085 lb. wheat	1.7	14.7	10
Peanut butter:	44	1 lb.	26.0	1.73 lb. peanuts	9.5	16.5	37
58 foods combined	8	Annual family consumption	\$393	Annual family consumption	\$203	\$195	51

1/ Table numbers refer to numbering in original 1936 report and annual supplements entitled "Price Spreads Between the Farmer and the Consumer,"

2/ Preliminary

Retail prices from the United States Bureau of Labor Statistics.

**Table 4.- Price spreads between the farmer and the consumer - food products, retail prices and farm values**

Commodity	Retail unit	Retail price				Percentage				Farm value				Percentage			
		June		May		June		change to		June		June		change to			
		1941	1942	1941	1942	1941	1942	1941	1942	1941	1942	1941	1942	1941	1942		
		Gents	Gents	Gents	Gents	Percent	Percent			Gents	Gents	Gents	Percent	Percent			
Pork products.....	1 lb. prin. pork products	25.3	24.0	29.7	29.3	+ 22	- 1	1.90 lb. live hog	15.7	17.3	25.2	25.4	+ 47	+ 1			
Dairy products.....	100 lb. milk equivalent	324.0	354.5	398.6	394.9	+ 11	- 1	100 lb. milk equivalent	146.0	170.9	1/192.82/188.5	+ 10	- 2				
Eggs .....	1 lb. Eggs	31.7	33.8	36.1	39.3	+ 16	+ 9	1.11 lb.	16.5	18.1	20.4	20.5	+ 13	+ 3/			
	1 doz.	36.0	36.9	40.9	42.4	+ 15	+ 4	1 doz.	21.7	23.2	26.5	27.4	+ 18	+ 3			
White flour.....	1 lb.	4.5	4.5	5.2	5.1	+ 13	- 2	1.41 lb. wheat	2.0	2.0	2.3	2.2	+ 10	- 4			
White bread.....	1 lb.	8.2	7.8	8.6	8.6	+ 10	0	.97 lb. wheat	1.3	1.3	1.6	1.5	+ 15	- 6			
Corn meal .....	1 lb.	5.0	4.3	4.7	4.7	+ 9	0	1.5 lb. corn	1.8	1.8	2.2	2.2	+ 22	0			
Rolled oats .....	1 lb.	7.4	7.1	8.6	8.6	+ 21	0	1.78 lb. oats	1.9	1.9	2.9	2.6	+ 37	- 10			
Corn flakes .....	8-oz. pkg.	7.8	7.0	7.2	7.2	+ 3	0	1.275 lb. corn	1.6	1.6	1.9	1.9	+ 19	0			
Wheat cereal.....	28-oz. pkg.	24.3	23.4	24.1	24.1	+ 3	0	2.065 lb. wheat	2.9	2.9	3.4	3.3	+ 14	- 3			
Rice .....	1 lb.	8.2	8.7	12.3	12.2	+ 40	- 1	1.51 lb. rough rice	2.5	3.8	6.0	5.7	+ 50	- 5			
Navy beans .....	1 lb.	6.9	7.3	9.0	8.9	+ 22	- 1	1 lb. dry beans	3.5	3.9	4.4	4.4	+ 13	0			
Oranges .....	1 doz.	31.5	28.9	31.4	36.2	+ 25	+ 15	1/17 box	9.3	6.2	7.6	12.9	+ 108	+ 70			
Potatoes .....	1 lb.	2.5	3.0	3.5	3.9	+ 30	+ 11	1 lb.	1.2	1.1	1.9	1.9	+ 73	0			
Apples .....	1 lb.	5.5	6.5	7.5	9.4	+ 45	+ 25	1 lb.	1.9	2.4	3.2	3.5	+ 46	+ 9			
Lamb products.....	1 lb. prin. lamb cuts	27.2	30.1	31.3	34.6	+ 15	+ 11	2.16 lb. live lamb	16.2	20.5	25.1	25.9	+ 26	+ 3			
Sweet potatoes.....	1 lb.	4.4	5.8	5.4	5.9	+ 2	+ 9	1 lb.	1.5	1.9	1.9	2.0	+ 5	+ 5			
Rye bread .....	1 lb.	9.1	8.5	9.2	9.2	+ 8	+ 0	.39 lb. rye & .64 lb. wheat	1.3	1.2	1.5	1.4	+ 17	- 7			
Whole wheat bread.....	1 lb.	9.3	9.1	9.9	10.0	+ 10	+ 1	.92 lb. wheat	1.3	1.3	1.5	1.5	+ 15	0			
Macaroni .....	1 lb.	15.0	13.8	14.2	14.2	+ 3	0	1.72 lb. durum wh.	2.3	2.1	2.7	2.6	+ 24	- 4			
Soda crackers .....	1 lb.	16.9	14.8	16.5	16.4	+ 11	- 1	1.085 lb. wheat	1.5	1.5	1.8	1.7	+ 13	- 6			
Peanut butter.....	1 lb.	19.3	17.9	26.9	26.0	+ 45	- 3	1.73 lb. peanuts	6.1	6.9	10.9	9.5	+ 38	- 13			
58 foods combined	Annual family consumption	\$ 332	\$ 345	\$ 392	\$ 398	+ 15	+ 2	Annual family consumption	\$ 141	\$ 162	\$ 202	\$ 203	+ 25	+ 3/			

Retail prices are 51-city averages as published by the United States Bureau of Labor Statistics - Farm values are calculated from U. S. average farm prices.

1/ Revised.	2/ Preliminary.	3/ Less than 0.5 percent.
-------------	-----------------	---------------------------

Table 5 .- Price spreads between the farmer and the consumer - food products; margins, and farm value as percentage of retail price

Commodity	Retail unit	Margin		Percentage : : change to : : June 1942 -from:		Farm value as percentage of retail price							
		1935-39: average: 1941		June : May : 1941 : 1942 : average: 1941		June : May : 1941 : 1942 : average: 1941		June : May : 1941 : 1942 : average: 1941					
		Cents	Cents	Cents	Percent	Cents	Percent	Cents	Percent	Cents	Percent		
Pork products	1 lb. prin. pork products	9.6	6.7	4.5	3.9	-	42	-	13	62	72	85	87
Dairy products	100 lb.milk equiv.	178.0	183.6	1/205.8	2/206.4	+	12	+	3/	45	48	48	48
Hens	1 lb.	15.2	15.7	15.7	18.8	+	20	+	20	52	54	57	52
Eggs	1 doz.	14.3	13.7	14.4	15.0	+	9	+	4	60	63	65	65
White flour	1 lb.	2.5	2.5	2.9	2.9	+	16	+	0	44	44	44	43
White bread	1 lb.	6.9	6.5	7.0	7.1	+	9	+	1	16	17	19	17
Corn meal	1 lb.	3.2	2.5	2.5	2.5	+	0	+	0	36	42	47	47
Rolled oats	1 lb.	5.5	5.2	5.7	6.0	+	15	+	5	26	27	34	30
Corn flakes	8-oz. pkg.	6.2	5.4	5.3	5.3	-	2	-	0	21	23	26	26
Wheat cereal	28-oz. pkg.	21.4	20.5	20.7	20.8	+	1	+	3/	12	12	14	14
Rice	1 lb.	5.7	4.9	6.3	6.5	+	33	+	3	30	44	49	47
Navy beans	1 lb.	3.4	3.4	4.6	4.5	+	32	+	2	51	53	49	49
Oranges	1 lb.	22.2	22.7	23.8	23.3	+	3	+	2	30	21	24	36
Potatoes	1 lb.	1.3	1.9	1.6	2.0	+	4	+	25	48	37	54	49
Apples	1 lb.	3.6	4.1	4.3	5.9	+	44	+	37	35	37	43	37
Lamb products	1 lb. prin. lamb cuts:	11.0	9.6	6.2	8.7	-	9	-	40	60	68	80	75
Sweet potatoes	1 lb.	2.9	3.9	3.5	3.9	+	0	+	11	34	33	35	34
Rye bread	1 lb.	7.8	7.3	7.7	7.8	+	7	+	1	14	14	16	15
Whole wh. bread	1 lb.	8.0	7.8	8.4	8.5	+	9	+	1	14	14	15	15
Macaroni	1 lb.	12.7	11.7	11.5	11.6	-	1	-	1	15	15	19	18
Soda crackers	1 lb.	15.4	13.3	14.7	14.7	+	11	+	0	9	10	11	10
Peanut butter	1 lb.	13.2	11.0	16.0	16.5	+	50	+	3	32	39	41	37
58 foods combined	Annual family consumption	\$191	\$183	\$190	\$195	+	7	+	3	42	47	52	51

1/Revised.

2/Preliminary.



Table 6 .- Indexes of food costs, consumer income and of charges and hourly earnings in marketing, 1935-39 = 100

Year and month	Retail : cost : of 58 : foods :	Non : agricultural : income : payments : 1/	Monthly : earnings : per employed : factory : worker 2/	Payments : to farmers : for 58 : foods :	Marketing : margin : of 58 : foods :	Hourly earnings in marketing enterprises				
						Class I : steam : railways 3/	Food : processing : marketing : 4/	Food : 5/	Cotton : 4/	
1929.....	125	122	118	138	115	93	-	-	-	-
1935-39 average..	100	100	100	100	100	100	100	100	100	100
1940.....	95	113	111	94	95	105	110	105	106	106
1941.....	103	133	131	116	93	106	116	110	119	119
1941 - Jan.....	96	122	120	102	92	106	113	107	108	108
June.....	104	133	133	114	96	104	117	111	116	116
July.....	105	134	134	121	93	103	115	110	121	121
Aug.....	105	136	135	122	92	103	115	110	124	124
Sept.....	108	136	139	128	92	104	115	110	124	124
Oct.....	109	138	140	128	95	103	118	111	130	130
Nov.....	110	140	140	129	96	106	121	113	130	130
Dec.....	110	144	143	134	93	119	123	114	130	130
1942 - Jan.....	114	146	150	138	96	119	125	117	131	131
Feb. ....	115	148	149	138	98	122	125	119	131	131
Mar.....	116	150	149	138	99	119	126	118	132	132
Apr.....	116	152	153	143	97	118	128	119	133	133
May.....	118	6/154	6/157	143	99	118	129	120	136	136
June.....	120	7/156	7/160	144	102					

1/United States Department of Commerce estimates. Adjusted for seasonal variation.

2/Prepared in the Bureau of Agricultural Economics from data of the U. S. Bureau of Labor Statistics, adjusted for seasonal variation. 3/Compiled from data published by the Interstate Commerce Commission.

4/United States Bureau of Labor Statistics. 5/Weighted composite of earnings in steam railways, food processing, wholesaling, and retailing. 6/Revised. 7/Preliminary estimates.

Table 7.- Farm products: Indexes of prices at several levels of marketing,  
1935-39 = 100

Year and month	Cost : Foods :				Fibers : Whole- :			Whole- : :		
	: of : Retail :		: : :		: Whole- :		: sale :		Farm : Prices	
	: living : prices :		: Whole- : Farm :		: Retail : sale :		: Farm : prices :		prices : paid	
	: of : city :		: of 58 : of :		: of : of :		: of : all :		: all : farmers	
	: fa- : foods :		: foods : cloth- :		: textile : cotton :		: farm : pro- :		: ducts :	
	: milies :		: : ing :		: pro- : and :		: pro- : ducts :		: : :	
	: 1/ : 1/ :		: 2/ : 3/ :		: 1/ : 2/ :		: 4/ : 2/ :		: 3/ : 3/ :	
1913	: 71	80	81	95	69	81	111	94	95	81
1914	: 72	82	82	97	70	77	97	94	95	80
1916	: 78	91	96	110	78	99	131	111	111	100
1918	: 108	134	151	174	128	193	281	195	190	141
1920	: 143	169	174	193	201	232	282	178	199	162
1929	: 122	132	126	138	115	127	167	138	137	123
1932	: 98	86	77	62	91	77	55	63	61	86
1935	: 98	100	106	98	97	100	109	104	102	100
1936	: 99	101	104	108	98	101	114	106	107	100
1937	: 103	105	108	113	103	107	111	114	114	105
1938	: 101	98	93	92	102	94	81	90	89	98
1939	: 99	95	89	89	100	98	85	86	88	97
1940	: 100	97	90	94	102	104	97	89	92	99
1941	: 105	105	105	116	106	119	131	108	115	105
1939-	:									
Aug.	:	94	85	84		96	85	80	83	96
Sept.	: 101	98	95	95	100	101	91	90	92	98
1940-	:									
Jan.	:	95	91	94		110	101	91	93	98
Mar.	: 100	96	89	91	102	104	99	89	91	99
July	:	97	89	91		102	96	88	89	98
1941-	:									
June	: 105	106	105	114	103	119	129	108	111	103
July	: 105	107	107	121	105	121	141	113	118	105
Aug.	: 106	108	110	122	107	124	149	115	123	107
Sept.	: 108	111	113	128	111	126	168	120	131	109
Oct.	: 109	112	112	128	113	128	160	118	131	112
Nov.	: 110	113	113	129	114	128	154	119	127	113
Dec.	: 110	113	114	134	115	129	157	125	135	115
1942-	:									
Jan.	: 112	116	119	138	116	132	164	133	140	117
Feb.	: 113	117	120	138	119	134	171	133	137	118
Mar.	: 114	119	122	138	124	136	174	135	137	119
Apr.	: 115	120	125	143	127	138	183	138	141	121
May	: 116	122	125	143	126	133	184	137	143	122
June	: 116	123	126	144	125	137	176	137	143	122

1/ From "Changes in Cost of Living" Bureau of Labor Statistics.

2/ Calculated from figures of the Bureau of Labor Statistics.

3/ Based on figures published by the United States Department of Agriculture.

4/ Cotton and wool prices weighted by production in the period 1935-39.





After five days return to  
UNITED STATES DEPARTMENT OF AGRICULTURE  
BUREAU OF AGRICULTURAL ECONOMICS  
WASHINGTON, D. C.

Penalty for private use to  
avoid payment of postage \$300

OFFICIAL BUSINESS

J JOE REED  
A C A A  
U S DEPT OF AGRICULTURE  
FRPS-MESS WASHINGTON D C

